

Work Plan: Commission for the Stewardship of Public Lands

(adopted 12/3/14)

Study Items	Presenters	Priority (TBD)	Conclusions (TBD)
<p>Multiple-use designation and management of public lands transferred to the State of Utah</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process and plan for improving and preserving access and multiple-use on public lands (hunting, fishing, recreation, preservation, grazing, mining, etc.) • Process and plan for improving and protecting the health of public lands • Process and plan for enhancing the productivity of public lands • Inventory of Lands proposed to be excluded from transfer (national parks, congressionally designated wilderness, military installations, Indian reservations, etc.) • Inventory of federal public lands presently designated by Congress for disposal, process for ensuring public notice, public input, transparency, public consent, value to state beneficiaries, and consistency with state and local plans • Effect of the enabling act requirement that 95% of net proceeds of any sale be paid to the federal government to reduce the national debt as a disincentive on State sale of public lands transferred • Role of local governments in the multiple-use designation and management of public lands transferred to the State • Assistance from federal agencies in the designation and management of multiple-use public lands transferred to the State 	<p>County Commissioners and Sheriffs most affected by federally controlled public lands Utah Association of Counties</p> <p>Demar Dahl, Chair, Nevada Land Management Task Force</p> <p>Holly Fretwell, Research Fellow, Property and Environmental Research Center</p> <p>Robert H. Nelson, PhD, Professor, Maryland University</p>		
<p>Legal analysis and litigation strategy for the transfer of public lands to the State (executive session)</p>			
<p>Governing body for the administration and management of public lands transferred to the State</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing agency or commission • New commission – elected/appointed/make-up • Role of local government and local plans in management and administration 	<p>Kevin Carter, SITLA</p>		

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<p>Economic analysis for the transfer of federally controlled public lands to the State</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost breakdown of federal management (30-year cost trends) • Deferred costs and maintenance under federal management • Projected cost breakdown of state management of public lands • Projected efficiencies from state and local management of public lands • Revenues generated on federally controlled public lands (30-year revenue trends) • Revenues generated on similarly situated state and private lands • Cost (including opportunity cost-lost productivity) to state and local government relating to federal management of public lands • Health risks to the public lands and state environs (air quality, habitat, watershed, fire risk, etc.) related to federal management of public lands • Effect of uncertainty of federal regulations and management of public lands on access, health and productivity of public lands • Projected effect of state regulatory certainty and management on access, health and productivity of public lands • Trends in federally sourced funds to State and local governments and attendant risks • Analysis of related studies 	<p>Holly Fretwell, Research Fellow, Property and Environmental Research Center</p> <p>Mike Baughman, PhD, President, Intertech Services Corporation</p> <p>Robert H. Nelson, PhD, Professor, Maryland University</p> <p>Dan Griffiths, Member, State Board of Education</p> <p>Randy Simmons, Utah State University</p>		
<p>Application of net proceeds from the transfer of public lands to essential government services (education, public safety, transportation, health and human services, etc.), intrastate payment in lieu of taxes</p>	<p>County assessors, state treasurer, and other stakeholders</p> <p>Robert H. Nelson, PhD, Professor, Maryland University</p> <p>Demar Dahl, Chairman of the Nevada Task Force on Management of Public Lands, Elko County Commissioner</p>		
<p>Process and plan for the transition from federal control to state management of public lands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time table • Phasing of transfers • Pre-existing liabilities – current status of the health of public lands and time and costs to improve health of public lands 	<p>County Commissioners</p> <p>Martin Goldney, chief negotiator, Government of the Northwest Territories, Canada</p>		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revenue sharing, incentive based Coordination with federal agencies on transition issues and planning Coordination with local governments on transition issues and planning Holding counties harmless with respect to revenues and expenses of transition 			
Process for preserving and protecting valid existing rights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geothermal resources Grazing Mining Natural gas Oil Recreation Rights of entry Special uses Timber Water Other natural resources or other resources 	Stakeholders representing the identified property interests and rights		
Recommended federal legislation to effectuate the orderly transfer of public lands to the State			
The jurisdictional rights and responsibilities of the state and federal government with respect to the public lands within the boundaries of Utah			
Drawing from the experience of the Northwest Territories which negotiated the transfer of control over their lands, water and resources from federal government of Canada just this year, in addition to the transfers to the Yukon provinces over the past decade.	Martin Goldney, chief negotiator, Government of the Northwest Territories, Canada		
History of public lands			
Coordination of efforts with other states (review of the Public Policy Statement passed unanimously by leaders from 14 states)			
State Legislation			